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Press Release *For Immediate Release*

Release No.: PR08-79

Date: July 3, 2008

Second Brigade's homecoming continues

FORT STEWART, Ga. (July 3, 2008) – More than 270 Soldiers with the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, came home to a humid welcome at Fort Stewart's Cottrell Field during a homecoming ceremony this morning.

Roughly 400 friends and family members were on hand to welcome their Soldiers home. Third Infantry Division Deputy Chief of Staff Lt. Col. Robert Reynolds greeted the torch party and thanked them for a job well done during the brigade's 13-month deployment to southern Baghdad.

"Each of you standing before me has helped make history," Reynolds said. "You can look into your mirror at home and see the reflection of a person who has made a difference by securing the blessings of liberty for both the Iraqi and U.S. people. Be proud of the history you've made."

The brigade was located in Arab Jabour and detained more than 800 terrorist suspects and helped foster Iraqi self-governance. Second Brigade Soldiers blocked weapons from entering the Iraqi capital, protected the local population, and trained Iraqi security forces. To date, more than 1,000 2BCT Soldiers have come home.

Following Reynolds' welcome and singing the national anthem, the Marne Song and the Army Song accompanied by the 3rd Infantry Division Band, the family members and friends rushed from the bleacher's reviewing stands to greet their Soldiers.